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(NP)
Dkt. 94150

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

BOX AF

MICHAEL JOHN HOLLITT, et al

Group Art Unit: 1103

Serial No.: 08/379,566

SEP 29 1997

Examiner: S. Bos

Filed: August 9, 1995

GROUP 1100

For: UPGRADING TITANIFEROUS MATERIALS

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed March 21, 1997, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 16, line 1, change "1" to --17--.

17. (Amended) A process upgrading of a titaniferous material by removal of impurities, comprising the steps of:

i) heating a titaniferous material containing impurities under reducing conditions at a temperature of about 1000°C to less than 1300°C in the presence of an additive which promotes formation of a liquid oxide phase containing